



Superior Court of the State of California
In and For The County of Placer
Roseville, California

COURT ADMINISTRATION
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PUBLIC NOTICE

POSTED AND FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Court Executive Office
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**THE SUPERIOR COURT OF PLACER COUNTY ANNOUNCES
UPDATED ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 VIRUS AND UPDATED
EMERGENCY LOCAL RULES
UPDATED NOVEMBER 17, 2020**

The Superior Court of Placer County is announcing changes to its operations, due to the recent increase in the spread of COVID-19 in Placer County and several neighboring counties. On November 17, 2020, the State Department of Public Health moved Placer County to the more restrictive “Purple Tier” of the Blue Print for a Safer Economy. This move highlights a substantial transmission of COVID-19 in our local community. Based on that factor, along with increasing case rates during the current week since that announcement, and the 90% increase in hospitalizations in the month ending November 6, 2020, the court is announcing changes in court calendars, postponements of some hearings, and a move to additional remote proceedings.

These updates will take effect November 23, 2020.

The court is announcing that:

- The court will postpone all traffic infraction and non-traffic infraction pre-trial and post-trial matters set November 23, 2020 through January 31, 2021 to an available date at least 16 weeks from the currently scheduled court date. This includes all pay or appear dates for traffic infractions.
- The court will postpone all traffic misdemeanor pre and post-trial hearings set November 23, 2020 through January 31, 2021 to an available date at least 16 weeks from the currently scheduled court date.
- The court will postpone all traffic infraction and non-traffic infraction trials set November 23, 2020 through January 31, 2021 to an available date at least 12 weeks out.

Superior Court of California, County of Placer
PUBLIC NOTICE RE: UPDATED ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 VIRUS
NOTICE OF NOVEMBER 17, 2020
PAGE 2

- The court will handle misdemeanor cases as follows:
 - All in-custody matters will remain as set.
 - All arraignments, trial assignment hearings, and trials will remain as set.
 - All driving under the influence and domestic violence misdemeanor hearings not specifically noted above that are set between November 23, 2020 and December 31, 2020 are postponed 12 weeks. Defendants are ordered to appear on a date 12 weeks from their scheduled hearing. The court will provide notice. Defendants and sentenced individuals must comply with all existing orders related to their release, probation, parole, post-release community supervision, or mandatory supervision including any criminal protective orders.
 - All misdemeanor hearings, excluding driving under the influence, domestic violence, and traffic cases, not specifically noted above that are set between November 23, 2020 and December 31, 2020 are postponed 12 weeks. Defendants are ordered to appear on a date 12 weeks from their scheduled hearing. The court will provide notice. Defendants and sentenced individuals must comply with all existing orders related to their release, probation, parole, post-release community supervision, or mandatory supervision including any criminal protective orders.
- Family centered case resolution six month and twelve month conferences set November 23, 2020 through January 31, 2021 will be dropped from calendar. All 18 month family centered case resolution conferences will remain as set.
- Family Law trials and other matters set from the family law trial assignment calendar, excluding contempt proceedings and matters involving domestic violence, will proceed by mandatory video appearance effective November 23, 2020 through January 31, 2021. Parties are required to upload all evidence to the court's evidence sharing platform prior to their court date. Parties unable to appear via remote technology must request an in-person appearance ([PL-CV014 Personal Appearance Request Form](#)), subject to judicial approval. Please see the court's remote appearance website for more details <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/RAS.shtml>.
- Family Law mandatory settlement conferences will proceed by mandatory video appearance, effective November 23, 2020 through December 31, 2020. Parties unable to appear via remote technology must request an in-person appearance ([PL-CV014 Personal Appearance Request Form](#)), subject to judicial approval. Please see the court's remote appearance website for more details <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/RAS.shtml>.
- There is no change to the mandate for remote appearances in most family law non-trial matters.
- All small claims cases will continue to be held by video appearance. Parties unable to appear via remote technology must request an in-person appearance ([PL-CV014 Personal Appearance Request Form](#)), subject to judicial approval. Please see the court's remote appearance website for more details <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/RAS.shtml>.

Superior Court of California, County of Placer
PUBLIC NOTICE RE: UPDATED ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 VIRUS
NOTICE OF NOVEMBER 17, 2020
PAGE 3

- Although the court removed the mandate for remote appearances in most civil and probate hearings effective October 1, 2020, appearances in these hearing types will remain **strongly encouraged**. Remote appearances are still required in family law and certain other civil and probate hearing types. Please see the Court's Emergency Local Rules for details.
- Jury trials may continue to be heard, but will be limited to the critically necessary criminal and civil trials.
- Court trials in civil and criminal matters will continue to be heard.
- Juvenile justice and juvenile dependency matters will continue to be heard primarily through remote appearances. Please check with your attorney for further information.

Individuals with pending traffic citations do have the following options to address their pending matters:

- Online Traffic Payments: Individuals may pay their fines online via the court's website at <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/online-case-access.shtml>.
- Request a Trial By Written Declaration: Individuals may request that their trial proceed by written declaration. Requests can be made online at <https://webportal.placerco.org/eCourtPublic/>.
- Sign Up for Traffic School: Individuals may choose to participate in traffic school. Please visit <https://webportal.placerco.org/eCourtPublic/> for more information and to determine if your case is eligible.
- Ability to Pay: Anyone who is unable to pay their traffic fine may complete and submit Judicial Council Form TR-320 (<https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/tr320.pdf>) to the Court.

The court will continue to hear all felony, family law, and civil hearings as currently set.

In addition to the above, the following additional restrictions remain in effect:

- Remote appearance is available, upon request, for most pre-trial criminal hearings. Remote appearance for preliminary hearings is subject to judicial approval.
- eDelivery is **mandatory** in family law and civil cases for attorneys and represented parties. Unrepresented parties are encouraged to use the eDelivery system. For more information on eDelivery and how to use the eDelivery system, please visit <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/online-edelivery-access.shtml>.
 - The court anticipates moving to a new eFiling system in late-2020 or early-2021. Please watch the court's website for updates.

Superior Court of California, County of Placer
PUBLIC NOTICE RE: UPDATED ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 VIRUS
NOTICE OF NOVEMBER 17, 2020
PAGE 4

- The State Department of Public Health has mandated face coverings for anyone entering a public building, including courthouses. Physical distancing protocols have been implemented in the courthouses.
- The court's Self-Help Center has discontinued most in-person services. Please visit the Self-Help Center page on our website to schedule a telephone or video appointment. The court has added limited in-person services for landlord-tenant matters on a temporary basis. The court has also introduced a **new** live chat pilot on its website. Please check the court's website for service hours <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/self-help-lhc.shtml>.
- Modified practices remain in effect for those called to jury service. For more information, please visit:
http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/public_notice/COVID/QAJury%20Duty_Eff.%205%2028%202020.pdf.

The court reminds members of the public that they should only come to the courthouse for official court business or to observe a court hearing. The court continues to strongly discourage individuals who do not have an active role in court hearings from attending court at this time. However, court proceedings will remain open to the public and media who choose to attend.

If you believe you are sick, or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or any other communicable disease, please contact the Court Clerk's Office at 916-408-6000 for further information. If you have an attorney, contact your attorney first before calling the court. Defendants who have posted bail are encouraged to discuss the bail issues with their attorney and the bail bonding company.

For information on specific cases, please visit the court's website or call 916-408-6000.